

CHALLENGES OF ACHIEVING TRANSLATION EQUIVALENCE IN UNITED NATIONS DOCUMENTS

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Annotation. The United Nations (UN) serves as a pivotal platform for international diplomacy, necessitating precise communication across various languages. This article examines the challenges of achieving equivalence in the translation of UN documents from English to Uzbek. It highlights linguistic, cultural, and contextual factors that complicate the translation process, ultimately impacting the clarity and effectiveness of communication in international relations.

Key words: documents, lexical gaps, linguistic challenges, syntax and structure, translation.

Introduction

UN documents are essential for conveying critical information regarding global policies, treaties, and resolutions. As the UN operates in six official languages, including English and Uzbek, the accuracy of translations is paramount. However, translating complex legal and diplomatic texts poses significant challenges. This article explores the problems of equivalence in translating UN documents, focusing on linguistic discrepancies, cultural nuances, and contextual ambiguities.

Linguistic imbalance is one important issue affecting translation. While Uzbek is an agglutinative language that uses flexible word order and suffixation to describe grammatical relations, English focuses on analytical structures with little inflection. Because of this, translators often reword sentences, add clarifying details, or alter morphology in order to preserve the original meaning. For example, the Uzbek translation of the English compound word “civil partnership” is “fuqarolik hamkorligi”, which expresses the concept more descriptively than literally.

Translating abstract or culturally rooted notions like privacy, justice, and equity presents significant semantic issues, as they may not have direct equivalents in Uzbek. Translators generally fill gaps with descriptive phrases, borrowings, or calques based on the context.

Establishing the real relationship between the original and the translation allows the translator to draw a line of commonality between the two texts, ensuring the maximum possible semantic proximity of texts in different languages. This is how translation quality is achieved. An equivalent translation is one in which the translated text closely resembles the original in all respects.

In the history of translation studies, a serious study of the issue of interlingual lexical compatibility and the classification of types of compatibility were first proposed by Y. Retzker (1950). He divides types of compatibility into three: adequate, equivalent, and alternative. By equivalent, he means a constant level of conformity that is independent of context for a particular time and place. An alternative (analog) is the result of an alternative translation made by choosing one of several possible synonyms. The equivalent is always one, although the alternatives may be several. V. Vinogradov writes about Retzker's classification that, in particular, phraseologisms, proverbs and wise sayings are translated using alternatives. To achieve adequacy, the translator must get rid of the literal torture of the original, lexical and phraseological correspondences, and seek the solution to the task from the point of view of integrity in the content, ideological direction, and style of the original.

In the context of translating UN documents, several types of equivalence can be identified:

1. Formal Equivalence: This approach concentrates on word-for-word translation, with the goal of preserving the original text's identical phrasing and structure. Formal equivalency is especially significant in legal and technical writings, where precise terminology is required. For example, treaties and resolutions frequently need formal equivalency to ensure that legal duties are explicitly established.

2. **Dynamic Equivalence:** Developed by Eugene Nida, dynamic equivalence prioritizes communicating the meaning and effect of the original text over rigidly adhering to its form. In UN papers, this method is critical for modifying information to resonate with varied audiences while keeping the fundamental message. For example, a remark intended to motivate action may need to be rephrased to fit cultural contexts while maintaining its motivational substance.
3. **Functional Equivalence:** This equivalence takes into account the text's purpose and context. UN papers frequently target a global audience, so maintaining functional equivalence entails ensuring that the translated material serves the same purpose as the original. This may entail adapting idiomatic language or cultural references to make them more relevant to the intended audience.

Additionally there are some cultural factors can affect interpretation process:

Cultural Context: The cultural context in which terms are used can significantly affect their interpretation. Certain concepts prevalent in Western diplomatic discourse may not resonate similarly in Uzbekistan due to differing historical or cultural backgrounds. For example, notions of human rights may be interpreted through various cultural lenses, affecting how documents are received by Uzbek audiences.

Historical Context: Uzbekistan's historical relationship with international organizations influences how UN documents are perceived and translated. The legacy of Soviet influence, for instance, may shape the understanding of terms related to governance and civil rights.

Target Audience Considerations: Translators must consider the knowledge base and expectations of the target audience. In Uzbekistan, where legal and diplomatic literacy may vary, it is crucial to adapt translations to ensure they are accessible and comprehensible to all stakeholders.

In conclusion, the problems of equivalence in translating UN documents from English to Uzbek are multifaceted, encompassing linguistic challenges, cultural differences, and contextual ambiguities. To enhance the quality of translations, it is essential for translators to collaborate closely with linguists, diplomats, and cultural

experts. By addressing these challenges head-on, the UN can improve its communication effectiveness and ensure that its messages are accurately conveyed across linguistic boundaries.

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